

1G978 U.S. PRO
09/942,887
08/30/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Callahan et al.
Application No.: TBD Group No.: 1745
Filed: Examiner: TBD
For: ELECTROCHEMICAL CELL INCORPORATING POLYMER MATRIX
MATERIAL

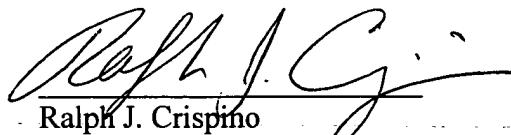
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
ATTENTION: Special Program Examiner, Group 1745

STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS' ATTORNEY ACCOMPANYING
PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL UNDER THE ENERGY PROGRAM

The above-referenced invention materially contributes to the more efficient utilization and conservation of energy resources. The claims are directed to a material that is capable of containing a quantity of liquid active species, such as anion conducting or cation conducting solutions, for use in electrochemical cells. Particularly, the present invention allows for use of the material as a membrane, without the limitations related to conductivity of membranes heretofore disclosed, since the conductivity is based on the liquid solution maintained within the polymer matrix material. As disclosed in the patent application, a conductivity of about 0.45 siemens per centimeter have been attained for a hydroxide conducting membrane. Accordingly, such high conductivities provide a significant contribution relating to efficient utility of energy resources.

Dated: August 30, 2001

Respectfully submitted,



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PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL UNDER THE ENERGY PROGRAM

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.102(c), and guidelines presented in M.P.E.P. § 708.02, VI, Applicant hereby petitions to make this application special as being for an invention that materially contributes to

- (a) [] the discovery or development of energy resources.
(b) [x] the more efficient utilization and conservation of energy.
1. Accompanying material

Accompanying this petition is a statement by

- [] applicant
[x] applicant's attorney

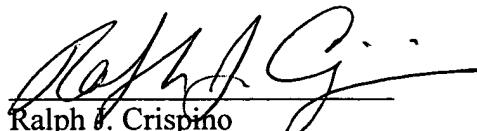
explaining how the invention materially contributes to category (a) or (b) set forth above.

2. Fee

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.102(c), no fee is required for this petition.

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